

The President's Report

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Back To School

It's "back to school" time at the University of Louisville, an exciting, sometimes chaotic occasion as students prepare, move-in and get oriented for the 2010–11 school year.



Campus Life

More than ever, UofL students are choosing to live on campus. Just two weeks before classes started, residence halls on Belknap Campus were at 99 percent occupancy, a clear reflection of the university's strong push to get more students fully engaged as part of the university community. Nearly 60 percent of full-time freshmen are now choosing to live on campus.



West Side Dining

Returning students will notice several physical changes on campus. One highlight is the new West Side Dining Hall. The newly constructed, \$3.8 million dining hall seats 400 and represents five different dining experiences under one roof. The dining hall will be open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.



More Veterans

Several of UofL's new students this year are military veterans. Veteran enrollment has been increasing steadily since fall 2008 when it was estimated at 550. That grew to 775 by fall 2009 and is expected to be 850 this fall. *G.I. Jobs Magazine* has named UofL a "Military Friendly School," a designation earned by only 15 percent of U.S. colleges and universities nationwide.

A Message from Dr. Ramsey

Dear Friends of UofL,

What a difference a year makes.

At this time last year, the University of Louisville was recovering from the biggest natural disaster in school history—the devastating flash floods of Aug. 4, 2009, which resulted in more than \$20 million in damage and affected 90 of our 155 buildings across three campuses.



While the ordeal disrupted lives, it strengthened our sense of unity and community. We went on to have a fantastic school year highlighted by remarkable student achievement. This year I am pleased to report that we are on much dryer ground as we embark on the 2010–11 school year.

And we do so with renewed dedication to providing the highest quality education, creating new knowledge and partnering with our community and state to solve the pressing problems of our time. We know we are making a difference—for our students, for our state and for our world.

I love the optimism that comes with a new school year. And we at the University of Louisville have plenty to be excited about.

Sincerely,



GROWING A CURE

Large grant will support cancer research in Owensboro

A \$3.15 million grant from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust to the University of Louisville will support the university's James Graham Brown Cancer Center and cancer research taking place in Owensboro, Ky.

With matching funds from Kentucky's "Bucks for Brains" program, more than \$4.5 million will go to the Owensboro Cancer Research Program (OCRP). The funds will be used to create an endowed faculty post for a nationally recognized researcher in plant-based pharmaceuticals, as well as creating two new faculty posts to expand and enhance the research program.

Among the projects under way at OCRP are:

- The development of a plant-based vaccine to prevent HIV
- Research into how changes in the calcium-signaling pathway of stem cells affects the development and continued growth of lung cancer cells

- Determining whether the interaction of the heavy metal cadmium with tobacco-derived carcinogens contributes to the development of lung cancer in smokers



Helmsley trustee John Codey announces the gift with UofL's James Ramsey and Dr. Donald Miller.

Researchers with the James Graham Brown Cancer Center and OCRP also are working on a second-generation cervical cancer vaccine grown in tobacco plants in order to make it affordable to millions of women worldwide.

A vaccine of this type will be most beneficial to women in rural parts of the United States, India and Sub-Saharan Africa. An ultimate goal of the partnership is to develop less expensive drugs for cancer prevention and treatment.

High Potential

Gift to UofL will help west Louisville schools

A \$1 million gift to the University of Louisville's College of Education and Human Development will be used to improve the quality of education and attract top-notch teachers to some of Louisville's poorest neighborhoods.

The gift from the Mary K. Oxley Foundation targets two Jefferson County Public Schools—J.B. Atkinson Elementary and The Academy at Shawnee. It later may be expanded to other schools.



A UofL student teacher works with students at J.B. Atkinson Elementary School.

Blake Haselton, interim dean at UofL's College of Education and Human Development, said the plan will become a model for other school districts and that it provides a big boost to the university's Signature Partnership Initiative, a program launched in 2007 to improve the quality of life for residents in west Louisville.

Part of the gift will be used to recruit "high potential" teachers and provide those teachers with resources to pursue certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The certification, which takes from one to three years to achieve, indicates that a teacher meets the highest standards for effective teaching.

The gift also funds:

- An intensive professional development program in which teachers and administrators partner with UofL faculty to adopt "best practices," create extended learning communities, access outside expertise and explore new ways to enhance student achievement
- A clinical fellows post in which graduate students will coordinate and advance the University's Signature Partnership Initiative goals. Fellows will receive a stipend of \$4,500 and three hours of college credit per semester
- A "Teacher in Residence" post filled by someone with expertise in the needs of urban schools

Speaking for Students

A brief chat with new CPE rep Aaron Price



Gov. Steve Beshear recently appointed Aaron Price, a third-year Brandeis School of Law student, as the student representative to Kentucky's Council on Postsecondary Education. As such, the Louisville native serves as

the voice for thousands of college students around the state.

Price earned a bachelor's degree in communication and political science from UofL. While an undergraduate, he was a member of the Student Government Association, Omicron Delta Kappa, Order of Omega, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Interfraternity Council and the UofL Malcolm X Debate Team. As a law student, he's a member of the Moot Court Board, Brandeis Society and Kentucky Justice Association.

Why were you interested in serving as the CPE rep?

As a political science major, I was always interested in what strong education systems can do for a state and strongly believe that improving the higher education

system of the state will help Kentucky's economy and provide a better quality of life for the citizens of the commonwealth.

Additionally, when I was a member of student government I noticed a lot of educational issues around the state that needed a long-term focus. Student government leaders only get to address short-term, localized issues, but as the CPE rep I will get to assist with the statewide long-term planning I was interested in long ago.

Are there any issues you plan to focus on?

As I make my way around the state I want to ask Kentucky students what's important to them, and I will make that my number-one goal. That being said, I personally want to make sure more students know about the CPE and are involved in its decision-making process, including, if possible, some of the incoming students that will be affected by our decisions in upcoming years. I am also interested in finding ways to incentivize AP, CLEP, international baccalaureate, and other dual-enrollment options so high school students can earn college credits and current college students can graduate faster and cheaper.

